



U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

32nd Congressional District

California's Water Future



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THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 2017
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER OF BALDWIN PARK
4640 MAINE AVE., BALDWIN PARK



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Panel presentations are available for viewing online at: napolitano.house.gov/2017-socal-water-forum-presentations-panelists

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



David Wegner, Jacobs Engineering

Dave Wegner recently retired as a senior staff member with the Water, Energy and Transp. Committees for the U.S. House of Representatives. In his positions he worked on legislation that directly affected administration policy & federal agency actions related to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Dept. of the Interior, the EPA and the Dept. of Energy. Prior to serving in Washington, D.C. he worked for over 20 years for the Dept. of the Interior managing Water and Science programs for the Colorado River Basin and the Grand Canyon. Currently he works as a part-time Sr. Scientist to Jacobs Engineering and continues to provide input and strategic counsel to the National Academy of Sciences, several Members of Congress and international organizations focused on water & climate issues. He currently splits his time between Tucson, AZ , Durango, CO and the Colorado River Basin.

FORUM EMCEE

MODERATOR - PANEL 1



Thomas Wong, President, Board of Directors of the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Thomas Wong was elected in Nov. 2012 to the Board of Directors representing the Monterey Park, and named Pres. of the District in Dec. 2015. At the District, Thomas is leading efforts to ensure a clean, sustainable and affordable water supply for generations to come, and has championed efforts to better engage the community on pressing issues, including the state's on-going drought. Thomas previously served as a chair of the Monterey Park Environmental Commission, where he championed efforts to help families & businesses save money and live healthier. He has worked tirelessly to raise awareness about local environmental & quality of life issues to spur community and individual action. Thomas received his Bachelor's in Economics with a minor in Geography/Environmental Studies from UCLA and his Master's in Public Administration from USC.



Erin Mellon, Assistant Director of Public Affairs, California Department of Water Resources

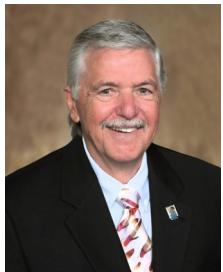
Erin Mellon was appointed Assistant Director of the Public Affairs Office (PAO) by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in August 2017. Mellon served as communications and outreach advisor for the Natural Resources Agency since 2016. Mellon has been acting as the communications manager for the Oroville Spillways Emergency Response and Recovery efforts. As Asst. Director of PAO, Mellon oversees 40 employees responsible for media relations, public outreach and education, web content, social media, visitors centers, and graphic, photography, and videography services. From 2014 to 2016, Mellon was communications director at ChargePoint, an electric vehicle charging network. She was director at Mercury Public Affairs from 2013 to 2014 and a communications consultant for the California State Assembly Speaker's Office of Member Services in 2013. Mellon was an Associate Deputy Media and Political Specialist at the Dewey Square Group from 2011 to 2013 and Deputy Campaign Manager at Victor Chaltiel for Mayor from 2010 to 2011. Mellon, a graduate of California Polytechnic State Univ., San Luis Obispo, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a minor in English.



Deven Upadhyay, Manager - Water Resource Mngmnt. Group, Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif. (MWD)

Deven Upadhyay is responsible for managing the District's planning activities & policy guideline development related to MWD's water supply plans and integrated resources plans. He also oversees the development & implementation of MWD's resources programs for conservation, local resources projects and groundwater recovery and conjunctive use programs. In addition, he directs the management and negotiations of resource contracts related to the State Water Project & Colorado River deliveries as well as water transfers and purchases. Upadhyay began his career with MWD in 1995 as a resource specialist in the Planning and Resources Dept. In 2005 he left MWD to work for the Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Cnty. as a Principle on policy issues. In 2008 he returned to MWD as the Manager of the Budget & Financial Planning Section in the Office of the CFO, where he managed Metropolitan's annual budget process. He also handled the MWD's process for administering rates and charges and managed business continuity and financial planning. An avid tennis player and a devoted Angel's baseball fan, Upadhyay earned a Bachelor's degree in Economics from CSU, Fullerton and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Univ. of La Verne.

MODERATOR - PANEL 2



Bob Kuhn, President, Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD)

Bob Kuhn was elected by the voters of Glendora & San Dimas to a 5th term on the TVMWD Board of Directors and continues to serve as its Pres., a position he has held for the past 15 years. He has been a resident of Glendora for more than 50 years and served 4 years as a Planning Commissioner and 8 years on the Glendora City Council, most notably as Mayor in 1990-91 & 1992-94. He also has served the community as a Rotarian, Mason, and member of the Glendora Chamber of Commerce for over 45 years. During his time on the Glendora City Council, he was a delegate to the League of Calif. Cities, SGV Assoc. of Cities, L.A. Cnty. Sanitation Districts and a Board member of So. Calif. Assoc. of Governments. He is currently a Board member of the San Gabriel Economic Partnership and a member of the Board of Directors of Glendora Community Hospital. Bob is the past Pres. of Foothill Transit, and the Independent Cities Risk Management Authority, and served on the SGV Planning Committee, and as an alternate on the Local Area Formation Commission of L.A. (LAFCO) Board. Bob currently serves as the Vice Chair of San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority and Secretary/Treasurer of Chino Basin Watermaster.

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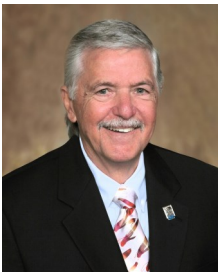
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Russ Bryden, Principal Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works

Russ Bryden serves as an Assistant Division Head in the Watershed Management Division, the planning arm of the L.A. County’s Flood Control District. A native of Southern California, Russ attended California Polytechnic State Univ., San Luis Obispo, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering, and then later attended Cal State Long Beach where he received a Masters Degree in Public Administration. He is a licensed civil engineer in the State of California. Since joining Public Works in 2000, Russ has held a variety of leadership positions dealing with both transportation and water resources planning. Currently, Russ is leading the development of the County’s Water Resilience Plan and overseeing legislation review, policy analysis, and long-term planning related to water resources management.



Grace Robinson Hyde, Chief Engineer and General Manager, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

Grace Robinson Hyde, with 34 years of experience, manages all operations of the Sanitation Districts, providing wastewater and solid waste management services for over 5.5 million people. Ms. Hyde joined the LACSD in 1983 and, in her current position, oversees about 1,600 employees and manages an annual budget of \$745 million for wastewater management and solid waste management.. She has an M.S. in Environmental Engineering from the University of North Carolina and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the Univ. of Texas. She is a Registered Professional Civil Engineer in California.

MODERATOR - PANEL 3



Dr. Anthony R. Fellow, Board of Directors, Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD (USGVMWD)

Dr. Anthony Fellow has served on the Board of Directors of the USGVMWD since 1991 and serves as Upper District’s representative on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Dr. Fellow is a Professor and past Chair of the Dept. of Communications at CSU, Fullerton. In November 2009, Dr. Fellow was elected to the Pasadena City College District Board of Trustees, Area 7, representing Arcadia and parts of Temple City. He also served 7 years as Vice Mayor and Councilman in the City of El Monte. Dr. Fellow’s distinguished career includes being named a 2007 Fulbright Scholar by the U. S. Presidential Commission. He also received Italy’s highest Fulbright honor, the Vercelli Chair of Twentieth Century Music History, at the Univ. of Piemonte. Each summer, Dr. Fellow continues to teach in Florence, Italy.



Anthony C. Zampielo, Executive Officer- Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (MSGBW)

As Exec. Officer for the MSGBW & Raymond Basin Management Board, Anthony Zampielo oversees groundwater quality and supply management activities as well as administration of the Basin’s groundwater adjudication. Mr. Zampielo was appointed to the position of Exec. Officer for the MSGBW in 2012 and to Raymond Basin Mngmnt. Board in 2002. Including his time with Watermaster, Mr. Zampielo has more than 30 years of water management and resource planning experience in the SGV with local Municipalities and Special Districts. He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Bus. Mngmnt. and is certified in Calif. as a Water Treatment Operator and Water Distribution Operator. Mr. Zampielo is currently Pres. of the Assoc. of Ground Water Agencies, currently serves on the Greater L.A. IRWMP as Water Management Area Rep. for Groundwater and is the Exec. Secretary for the SGV Water Assoc. & the Central Basin Water Assoc.



Robb Whitaker, General Manager, Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD)

Robb Whitaker has worked in the field of water resources engineering and planning for over 30 years. He has wide ranging experience with water distribution infrastructure, water supply forecasting, and groundwater basin management. Mr. Whitaker is the Gen. Manager of the WRD, a regional groundwater agency that manages & provides half of the total demand for water to nearly 4 million residents in 43 cities within southern L.A. County. During his 26 years at WRD, Robb has developed and implemented many projects and programs to increase the safety and sustainability of the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins. Mr. Whitaker received a B.S. in Civil Engineering, with emphasis in Water Resources, from USC. He is a registered Professional Engineer in California.

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**Sam Pedroza, Claremont Councilmember,
Environmental Planner, Sanitation Districts of LA Cnty.**

Sam Pedroza was first elected to the Claremont City Council in 2007. Serving as Mayor in 2011 and 2016. Active on regional issues, he serves as the First Vice-Chair of the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority and as Chair of the Foothill Gold Line Joint Powers Assoc. Additionally he is on the Regional Council of the Southern California Assoc. of Governments, Boardmember of L.A. Division of the Calif. League of Cities, Foothill Transit Board Exec. Committee and is active on several other regional boards and offices. For employment, Sam works as an Environmental Planner for the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. Sam has a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration from San Diego State Univ. and a Master of Science in Urban Planning from UCLA.



Tina Mullis, Water Resources Program Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, Regional Office, Boulder City, NV

Tina Mullis has worked with Reclamation in Boulder City, Nevada, since 1987. She holds Bachelor of Science degrees in Accounting and Business Management from UNLV and has held a variety of positions with Reclamation, including Accountant and Position Classification Specialist. In January 2003, she began her current career as a Prog. Manager over several very interesting programs, including the WaterSMART Program, the Water Conservation Field Services Program and the Drought Response Program. Tina is the Regional Coordinator for these programs. Tina is quick to tell you how much she loves her job and believes passionately in what Reclamation does to assist in fulfilling the many water resource management needs in the West.



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Julie Alvis, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Bonds and Grants, California Natural Resources Agency

Julie Alvis serves as Deputy Asst. Secretary for Bonds & Grants with the Calif. Natural Resources Agency, the state agency responsible for managing California’s natural, cultural, and historical resources. She is responsible for the fiscal oversight of funding that is administered by 22 departments and conservancies for a wide variety of resources-related programs. Julie serves as key staff to the Calif. Strategic Growth Council, and serves on behalf of the Secretary for Resources on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, the San Joaquin River Conservancy, and the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy. Prior to joining the Natural Resources Agency in 2008, Julie served as board liaison to the Calif. Bay-Delta Authority, as an analyst working on watershed management issues, and as an editor for various publishing firms. She is a graduate of UC Davis.



David Van Dorpe, Deputy District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

David Van Dorpe is a registered civil engineer with 22 years of experience in the planning, design, construction and management of water resource projects. In 2012, Mr. Van Dorpe was promoted to be the Deputy Dist. Engineer and Chief of the Prog. & Project Management Division. As one of two principle deputies for the Dist. Commander, Mr. Van Dorpe is responsible for oversight of the District’s Civil Works, Military and Interagency and International Service Programs. His previous assignments include Civil Works Branch Chief, Project Manager, Structural Engineer and Project Engineer for the L.A. Dist. of the USACE. The mission of the Corps’ is to provide vital public engineering services in peace and war to strengthen our Nation’s security, energize the economy and reduce risk from disasters.

Mr. Van Dorpe has received several awards for his services to the USACE including the Bronze Order of the de Fleury Medal and two Commander’s Awards for Civilian Service. In addition to his professional engineering license, Mr. Van Dorpe is also a certified Project Manager Professional with the Project Management Institute (PMI). He is a graduate of the South Pacific Region’s Leadership Development Prog. and has served as a Special Asst. to the Chief of Engineers in Washington D.C. Mr. Van Dorpe is a firm believer in developing future leaders and has worked in several recruitment and mentoring roles including that of College Bowl Coach for the Hispanic Engineers National Award Academy Conference (HENAAC). He is a graduate of the Army Management Staff College, Advanced Course. He earned his Bachelors of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from California State Polytechnic Univ., Pomona.

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